

LICENSED MIDWIFE DISCLOSURE FORM

Prospective client: _____ Date: _____

Licensed midwife: _____ Date: _____

Section 2508 of the Business and Professions Code requires that a licensed midwife shall make the following disclosures in oral and written form.

1. All of the provisions of Section 2507 have been explained to the client.
2. The licensed midwife has reported whether she has liability coverage for the practice of midwifery.
3. The specific arrangements for the transfer of care during the prenatal period, hospital transfer during the intrapartum and postpartum periods, and access to appropriate emergency medical services for both the mother and the baby, if necessary, have been described.
4. Complaints about the quality of care provided by the licensed midwife may be reported to the Medical Board of California by telephone at (800) 633-2322 or via the Internet at www.caldocinfo.ca.gov.

Additionally, the current status of licensed midwives and physicians may be verified by contacting the Medical Board's Consumer Information Unit by telephone at (916) 263-2382 or via the Board's Web site.

Signature of client: _____ Date: _____

Signature of midwife: _____ Date: _____

Note: A copy of the signed Disclosure Form shall be placed in the client's medical record.

Note: The attached form is a suggested format for the mandatory disclosure of the required information. However, the licensed midwife may choose to use another form, providing that the form includes all information required by Section 2508 below.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE
Excerpted Sections 2507 and 2508

PRACTICE AUTHORIZED.

2507. (a) The license to practice midwifery authorizes the holder, under the supervision of a licensed physician and surgeon, to attend cases of normal childbirth and to provide prenatal, intrapartum, and postpartum care, including family-planning care, for the mother, and immediate care for the newborn.

(b) As used in this article, the practice of midwifery constitutes the furthering or undertaking by any licensed midwife, under the supervision of a licensed physician and surgeon who has current practice or training in obstetrics, to assist a woman in childbirth so long as progress meets criteria accepted as normal. All complications shall be referred to a physician immediately. The practice of midwifery does not include the assisting of childbirth by any artificial, forcible, or mechanical means, nor the performance of any version.

(c) As used in this article, “supervision” shall not be construed to require the physical presence of the supervising physician.

(d) The ratio of licensed midwives to supervising physicians shall not be greater than four individual licensed midwives to one individual supervising physician.

(e) A midwife is not authorized to practice medicine and surgery by this article.

(f) The board shall, not later than July 1, 2003, adopt in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), regulations defining the appropriate standard of care and level of supervision required for the practice of midwifery.

DISCLOSURE TO CLIENTS

2508. (a) A licensed midwife shall disclose in oral and written form to a prospective client all of the following:

(1) All of the provisions of Section 2507.

(2) If the licensed midwife does not have liability coverage for the practice of midwifery, he or she shall disclose that fact.

(3) The specific arrangements for the transfer of care during the prenatal period, hospital transfer during the intrapartum and postpartum periods, and access to appropriate emergency medical services for mother and baby, if necessary.

(4) The procedure for reporting complaints to the Medical Board of California.

(b) The disclosure shall be signed by both the licensed midwife and the client and a copy of the disclosure shall be placed in the client’s medical record.

(c) The Medical Board of California may prescribe the form for the written disclosure statement required to be used by a licensed midwife under this section.